

Alumnus

Southern Illinois University at Carbondale

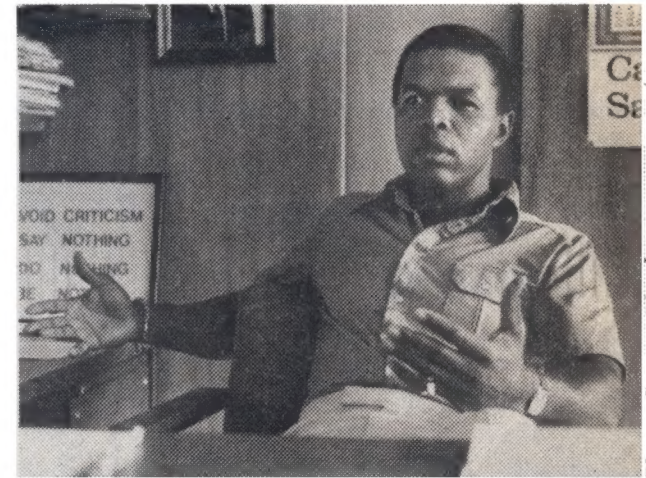
July, 1981



"You must . . . touch the people."



"Inflation has hurt men's athletics."



"Impossible to compete in 12 sports."

Photos: Gregory Drezdson

Gale Sayers resigns AD post

Gale Sayers is a businessman, among other things.

Because he is, the SIUC athletic director could no longer look opportunity in the face and turn away.

The former Chicago Bears pro football star will resign effective Sept. 1 to pursue private business opportunities possibly in the Windy City.

months," Swinburne said, "but in that short time I have gained enormous appreciation for his integrity, dedication and unselfishness. He is a great person and he's given a great deal of himself to the University and the region."

Administration of men's athletics was switched from SIUC's office of the vice president for University relations to

programs," Sayers said. "SIUC must seek out people who have money and will support the programs. But people today are sending their own children to college and donating money to an athletic program is a luxury . . . they just don't have the money."

His Saluki tenure hasn't been all rosy, but Sayers fondly looks back on it as

"Because of rising costs, it is going to be impossible for universities to compete in 12 sports," Sayers said. "However, it is the University's philosophy here to maintain an all-sports program, allowing more athletes opportunities to be involved."

In addition, Sayers feels Title IX has affected the men's programs, especially the two-revenue producing sports—